

WORKERS of the WORLD UNITE THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST

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OUR STREET.

[FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST]

BY LOUIS ESSON.

The bacchic harp of nature thrums
A hymn of primal gladness.
The magpies warble in the gums,
Our ragged children in the dums
Know only human sadness.

For bush we have a narrow lane,
For creek, a greasy gutter,
No trees exult in sun or rain,
Funeral chants of helpless pain
World-weary creatures mutter.

Cracked cobble stones, and row on row
Of hovels line the alley
Where haggard figures come and go,
And no birds sing, no sweet winds blow
As in the sunlit valley.

In our vile street, where'er you look,
Each worn face tells its story
From sweater's den, or vagrant's nook
Of want and woe—an obscene book
To mock man's grace and glory.

The eerie yellow lamps reveal
Hard faces bleared and drunken.
Who cares? None heeds the demon reel,
The bully's blow, the doxy's squeal,
In this Inferno sunken.

A wretched mother wails for bread
To feed her starving baby,
An outcast tramps with weary tread,
And knows not where to lay his head,
Though Christ himself he may be.

Dull hours slink by on leaden feet,
There is no end of sorrow;
No vista opens from our street
To-day is weary, and we meet
A wearier to-morrow.

The bacchic harp of nature thrums
Of corn and wine and gladness,
Of sun and space, and birds and gum,
But broken creatures of the slums
Hear naught but notes of sadness.

The Passing Show.

CONDUCTED BY OTUS.

THE Portuguese Premier has been driven out of office as the result of corrupt practices, and is now being prosecuted. Which reminds us that there is more than one Premier in Australia who might with profit be prosecuted for corruption, too.

The Labor members have been piloting Premier Murray over Melbourne Trades Hall, and the gentleman who represents the general interests of the sweaters was toasted and generally fawned upon with a view of getting him to consent to the proceeds of the Eight-hour Gamble being utilised to make building additions to the Hall. Mr. Murray assured the Labor people that the gulf which divided them from him was not so very wide or deep, and generally said oily things about them, and wound up by promising them the whole Gamble.

A country newspaper man writes in Melbourne Age that one of the worst sweaters is the Vic. Eight-hour Committee, which places its adverts. at about 2d per inch (while such adverts., being usual, should be paid at 2s 6d and 3s per inch)—and that therefore the Eight-hour Committee's rate is only one-tenth of the ruling rate. This is a charge that might easily lie against Sydney Eight-hour Committee.

The Vic. State coal mine meeting held on Monday of last week was a funny old circus. Mr. Benjamin Hoare moved in favor of cheap coal for manufacturing and other purposes, and urged that the State mine should be worked and developed to this end. Dr. Maloney spoke some, and then Labor-member Hannah valiantly pronounced that "the Victorians should wake up, and demand that their State coal mine should be worked in the interests of the manufacturers and of the community generally." Next Labor-Council President Gray came into the picture, and insisted that "the State should act in the interests of the manufacturers and the public generally." After which it was unanimously resolved to ask Premier Murray to facilitate the doing of things to further the getting of cheap coal for the manufacturers and the community generally.

Reported that the Sailors and Ships' Firemen of Great Britain and Ireland are planning a big strike for July. To ensure greater success, an effort is being made to organise the American seamen and firemen to help their British comrades.

John Burns, speaking in 1887, said of Craft Unionism: "Constituted as it is, Unionism carries within itself the source of its own dissolution." He understood the working-class movement then.

Miss Mulcahy, of Vic. P.L.C., visited Sydney to place before Leg-Ironer Wade a petition from 10,000 Victorian women for the release of certain strike prisoners. The "petition" does not include the Socialists jailed for protesting against the jailing of the strike officials; but it does urge that the "law has been sufficiently vindicated"—an implication that the jailing of the unionists was a correct thing.

It has taken about five years to raise £633 19s 10d towards the £1000 required to establish a Hawkesbury College scholarship to perpetuate the memory of William Farrer, Australia's greatest agricultural scientist, who gave his life for his work, and was brutally sweated by the N.S.W. Government while he lived. His success in breeding rust and smut-resisting wheats, as well as dry country varieties, saved hundreds of thousands of pounds to the banks and mortgage companies and large land capitalists. As a matter of fact about 75 per cent of the wheat grown in N.S.W. last year was from varieties developed by William Farrer.

Mr. George Wettin is to be "coronated" in May, and it is expected that Mr. Andrew Fisher will be present at the glittering funeral.

At the inquest on Thomas James Parker, killed at Eveleigh railway yards recently, Mr. Stephen Murphy, coroner, returned the usual verdict of "accidental death," but hazarded the profound remark: "I am satisfied some one is responsible for the accident. There seems to have been carelessness somewhere." This paper wants to ask Mr. Murphy whether an honest statement would not show that more than half the "accidental deaths" in the railway service are the direct result of the sweating system employed by the Railway Commissioners?

METEORPSYCHOSIS.

A chicken lived, a chicken died;
Its drumstick and its wing were fried,
Its feathers by a dealer dried,
And very shortly after dyed.

Soul it had none; admitting that,
How comes it? There, upon her hat,
Its plumes—a mortal chicken's rise,
A glorious bird of paradise.

—Echtop.

A "saturnalia of vulgarity and unshamed curiosity" is how the press describes the proceedings that marked the marriage of Majorie Gould and Anthony Drexel, at New York. The parties belong to millionaire families, and the persons who furnished the "saturnalia of vulgarity" were the richest and "nicest" sort. The wealthy lower orders, Judge Higginbotham called them.

That celebrated Labor paper, Sydney Star, makes yet another world-stirring announcement. It is this. King George of Greece is a modest monarch; he rides in farmers' waggons, and dines in cheap restaurants. The danger of printing this sort of information is in the possibility of every second Potts Pointer taking to riding in billy cart and dining in fourpenny hash-houses.

Wade is leaving McGowen and Co. a legacy of £6,000,000 to find for works to be put in hand before the leg-ironer receives his death sentence. And McGowen and Holman will be so busy finding those millions that they won't have time to do much else than jail an occasional striker.

Two news items:

The will of Mrs. Wilhelmina Seal, of Malvern, shows that the lady left personal property valued at £68,965.

A starving man in Melbourne stole two loaves of bread and was sent to jail for a month.

Melbourne watchmen (old men) work 120 hours a week; and a Labor Government rules over all the Australias. God save the King!

There has been a boom in burglary in Victoria, a police riot in France, a political crisis in Portugal, a hooligan display in N.S.W. Parliament, and a week of prayer and humiliation in the home of Leg-ironer Wade for preservation from the working-class wrath that is to come.

Mrs. Marie Edwards, sent to jail by Judge Pring for alleged perjury, seems to have got on that mediaeval man's nerves somewhat. When he endeavored to squelch her on one occasion, she said: "I will not apologise, and you can send me to prison if you like." To which Pring replied: "I am going to send you to prison; I am going to send you there for perjury." Mrs. Edwards declared there was no justice in Australia, and "hoped that justice would be done by a judge who was not a friend of plaintiff."

Melbourne bootmakers who last week lined up with joyous countenances in blissful expectation of receiving the 4s extra awarded them by the Arbitration Court, went away with long-drawn features after having discovered that the employers were still determined to disobey the law. Talk about the futility of awards!

Farmer and Co.'s manager considers that lift work is very suitable for youths of 17 and 18 years. His firm starts lift attendants at a whole 30s a week, and if they give satisfaction within a month they may even receive a whole 35s a week! Really, Farmer and Co. should be warned against such reckless expenditure of their hard-earned money. Generosity so lavished sometimes leads to bankruptcy.

The working-class will be interested to learn that the new Prince of Wales has been confirmed, and that the Privy Council has approved of the alteration in the Prayer Book rendered necessary by the "elevation" of the royal nipper. So that now no misapprehension need exist as to whom we shall pray for—and how.

Said that peasants in some of the outlying districts on the Don River, Russia, are "dying like flies" from cholera. This is the fearful price the workers pay for their own poverty and the luxury of their exploiters.

A brutally cruel blunder on the part of some one occurred at Richmond, Vic. A little boy, 13 months old, died at the Children's Hospital, and it was arranged that the body should be sent to the parents' home for burial. When the casket was opened, and the grief-stricken mother was proceeding to get the little body ready for burial, she discovered that the body of another child had been sent to her. The workers pay for their poverty in the bitterness of pain and sorrow, even in the darkest hour of death.

N.S.W. Parliament seems to be made up somewhat largely of leg-ironers and larrikins. On a recent Wednesday night, Coercionist Wood (Minister for Justice) and Arthur Griffith (the middle-aged dude of peccage extraction who misrepresents some of the Broken Hill workers), had a scrapping match. It all arose out of a very heated but nevertheless perfectly correct assertion that Wood had once signed the Labor pledge. Wood challenged Griffith to come outside, and as the two legislators proceeded to leave the Chamber, there was a wild rush on the part of 88 other law makers to see the law broken. They positively fell over one another in their frenzied rush to witness the hooligan display. The combatants buttoned up their coats and bogged in, and butted and banged one another in a furiously bloodless battle, while partisan legislators cheered them on, and gleefully remarked on the "pair of beauts. Griff. got on to his ribs," or the delightful manner in which the Injustice man "landed a woodener on Griff's lug." The Sergeant-at-Arms eventually came on the scene, and the combatants were duly separated; but so far we have not heard that it is the intention of the Government to leg-iron the persons responsible for the degrading show.

"Anon" (Adelaide): Two men were standing by the cutting, watching the work proceeding in the making of the Manchester ship canal in England. They were what might be termed heavily-built men, and a look at them indicated at once that they were accustomed to laborious toil. They were navvies, as willing to do such work as the next, and as fit and strong as the present-day commercial system will allow. At the time in question they were going through another spell of unemployment, a thing not only common to the two of them, but an experience of all their fellow-workers.

Thus they were loiterers upon the face of

the earth, compulsorily prevented from doing something in order to get their daily needs until such time as some one could utilize them to make profit, and as they loitered they talked.

"I say, Bill," said one. "if it wernt fur thinvencion o that theer steam-navvy that's workin deawn theer i that cuttin there'd be a hundred moorer spades agoing on this job."

"Aye," said Bill, "an if it wurnt fur thinvencion o spades there'd be a thousand moorer tay-spoons."

Thus they talked, the discussion being a true reflex of their lack of knowledge of the capitalist system that oppressed them, when a young fellow passing by interrupted them.

"Are you navvies?" he said.

"Aye, we are," answered one.

"And do you belong to the navvies' union?"

"Aye, an orlers hev bin sin we started workin," said the other.

"And hasn't your union got its funds deposited in a bank?"

"That's so, owd man; an we've gotten a good lump o money ith bank, too."

"Well, do you know," replied the young man, "I'm a clerk in that bank, and the contractor who owns that steam navvy hadn't enough money of his own to buy it, so he came to our bank to borrow some, and we lent him yours."

A negro cut his own throat with a pen-knife, and then meandered about Eastwood station with a brick in each hand, threatening to do for people. He was duly captured, and, while bound, asked a bystander for a chew of tobacco. This request was complied with, and he showed his gratitude by nearly biting off the finger of the man who put the lump of tobacco in his mouth. That nigger wasn't much unlike Gregory Wade, who jailed and leg-ironed the representatives of the workers who had been nugs enough to elect him to power.

Several opinions and sentiments:

E. H. Kunze, Brisbane: I take this opportunity to convey to you my appreciation of the good fight you are making by means of THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST. Unfortunately, we up here are not yet in a position to give the movement much assistance, as we are a very few individuals. But the time cannot be far distant when Queensland will fall into line.

Os. Bennett, Adelaide: The new paper is a bonzer!

"Anon," Adelaide: I wish nothing but success for the new paper.

A few more facts concerning the futility of Wages Boards:

The Amalgamated Carpenters are not satisfied with their award.

The secretary of the Electrical Trades Union says "there are doubtless many cases where the awards are not being properly observed," but he declares that the reason for this is ignorance on the part of the employers and not design.

At the last meeting of the Watchmen, Cleaners, and Caretakers' Union, an astonishing feature was the receipt of so many letters from employees in these callings complaining about the low wages and long hours they were subjected to.

At the Cabmen's Union meeting numerous complaints were made regarding non-observance of the award by proprietors. It was stated that the award provisions are being evaded by a system of bogus rentals of vehicles to drivers.

Andrew Fisher declares that "it wouldn't be wise to disturb the arrangement" made by the Fusion Government re the battleship foolery. It is pointed out that the "first instalment to the contractors will be £65,000, and next year's instalment will be between £900,000 and £1,000,000." Fisher and Co. refuse to reduce the age limit for old-age pensions because it would cost something more than a million extra to do it; but they are quite willing to pay a million away for an instrument of murder to protect the interests of the exploiting class. And in order to pay the first instalment they do not hesitate to illegally take £50,000 out of the trust funds.

In Victoria they sweat the school teachers just as they do in N.S.W.; and in Victoria as in N.S.W. the sweated teachers support either the strike-breakers or the leg-ironers in politics.

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New occasions teach new duties; Time makes ancient good uncouth;
They must upward still and onward who would keep abreast with Truth;
Lo, before us gleam her camp fires! We ourselves must Pilgrims be,
Launch our "Mayflower," and steer boldly through the desperate wintry sea,
Nor attempt the Future's portal with the Past's blood-rusted key.

—JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

A Child of Lust.

BY H. E. HOLLAND.

"The Labor Party is not the child of love; it is the child of lust!" This was the genius-flashed phrase that fell from the lips of Chas. Feldhusen at Sydney Domain meeting last Sunday—and the truth of it was recognised by the audience. The Labor Party of to-day is not the love-child of Revolutionary Industrialism; it is the product of Political Lust. For substantiation of such an assertion one has only to peruse the Labor Party's official list of candidates recently issued. Of 64 candidates selected more than half are either large or small exploiters of Labor, while many are men who have either actively or passively opposed the Labor Party on

the political field at varying periods during the past 20 years, and who now, because of the Political Lust which consumes them, have cast aside all their previously-declared scruples in order to accept the Labor Party's endorsement. Four are lawyers; some are or have been publicans and sinners; some are Sunday-school teachers; some are cold-water men, and some look long and lovingly on the wine when it glows red in the cup, and when it biteth like an adder. Some of them have figured notoriously in the black-handed work of strike-breaking. Most of them have at some time or other been cursed by the rest of them for blacklegs and traitors and vote-splitters. But all of them are now the endorsed candidates of Labor, and all of them stand uncompromisingly for principle—(we had almost written it *Principle*)—the principle of middle-class interests. Mr. Davidson (selected to contest Annandale) is a master blacksmith. Mr. Dacey (Alexandria) was a master blacksmith before his election to Parliament. Mr. Coates is a commercial traveller. Mr. Minahan is a boot-shop employer in a rather large way; Mr. English, whom the Belmore Labor League has selected, and whom the P.L.L. Executive (of which Mr. Minahan is president) will not endorse, is also a fairly large employer, in the soft-goods line. Mr. Lynch (Ashburnham) and Mr. Gardiner (Newcastle) are school teachers. Mr. Beeby is a well-to-do lawyer and employer. Mr. Treffe (Castlereagh) is an employer, and until quite recently was one of the Labor Party's most hostile opponents, both through his paper and on the political field. Mr. Holman, Cootamundra, is a barrister, and earned an unenviable notoriety for his antagonism to working-class interests during the Rockchoppers' Strike, the Tram Strike—which he was largely instrumental in wrecking, the Broken Hill Lockout, and the recent Coal Strike. Mr. Black, Narrabri, is a journalist who on more than one occasion found himself opposed by the Labor Party, and has been the subject of the most bitter denunciations by Mr. Holman and others. Mr. Hollis, Newtown, was scathingly assailed on the Labor Council for his betrayal of the Tram Strikers. Mr. Kearsley, Northumberland, is an ex-parson with strike-chloroforming proclivities. Mr. R. D. Meagher, Phillip, only last election was held up to execration by the Labor Party as a person who was out to split votes at the bidding of Carruthers, Sydney *Worker* publishing some startling cartoons bearing on this allegation; he is not eligible under P.L.L. rules to receive the Executive's endorsement, but with a cheerful disregard for constitutional procedure that might gladden the soul of Gregory Wade the party has thrown its rules aside to meet the exigencies of the occasion. Mr. H. C. Hoyle, Surry Hills, in past years put up some of the bitterest fights ever made against the Labor Party, especially when he sat as Protectionist member for Redfern, and aided ex-Labor man Sharp in his fight against Labor-candidate Banner in 1894; moreover it was the Labor Party that tongue-lashed Hoyle for his action in bringing about the dismissal of Frank Volk from the tramway service because the latter had taken part in political meetings. Mr. Cusack, Queanbeyan, whose endorsement is not yet gazetted, is a large employer at Yass; while Mr. Donoghue, who has received the local selection for the same constituency, is a farmer and employer. Mr. Graham, Wickham, was against the Labor Party in past days, and also opposed the miners when they righteously resolved to strike. Mr. Nicholson, Woronora, is a typical middle-class politician, who for a long while figured outside the camp of the Labor Party, and lately became a member of the Party to save his seat. Mr. Fitzgerald, Darlinghurst, is now a

barrister; he was one of the first Labor members elected in 1891, but deserted the Party, and was fought and beaten for Lang in 1894 by W. M. Hughes, who published in the *New Order* some astounding attacks concerning Fitzgerald; indeed, Hughes's strictures on Fitzgerald would make interesting reading at this juncture. Mr. Thrower, Macquarie, is one of the gentlemen who took sides with Hordern's against the striking tailoresses in 1901. Mr. G. A. Jones is an employer, who has openly repudiated the Labor Party's land tax proposals; he also figured *not* on the girls' side in the tailoresses' strike. Mr. Horne, Liverpool Plains, is a farmer, who has also repudiated the Labor Party's land tax. Mr. Crawford, Marrickville, is a parson, not long since in the Liberal camp, and quite recently seeking re-admission to the Orange Lodge apparently with an eye on the political possibilities. Mr. von Hagon, Gordon, is an employer, a single-taxer, who has fought the Labor Party on the political field. Mr. F. E. McLean, Granville, is, we understand, the same F. E. McLean who sat for Marrickville in the Federal Parliament as a Liberal, and as a Liberal fought Lyne for the Hume in 1907. Mr. Dooley, Lithgow, was a master tailor at the time of his election. Mr. A. J. Kelly, Lachlan, is an ex-publican; he was first elected as one of the labor-members for West Sydney in 1891, broke from the Party, and in 1894 opposed the labor candidate for Denison; in 1898 opposed W. A. Holman for Grenfell; and has been cursed by labor party men with all the swear words in the vocabulary. Mr. S. E. Hutton, Lane Cove, is an employer. Mr. Miller, Cooma, is an employer, and until recently sat in the opposition camp. Mr. Donald Macdonnell, who will receive the Cobar nomination, was prominent when the Tram Strike was wrecked. He has openly fought the selected labor candidate, and has also been caricatured by Mr. Hughes as a labor rat. Mr. Morrish, King, has twice opposed the labor party as a Socialist candidate; Messrs. Holman, Beeby, Nielsen, Black, Fitzgerald, and others have in past days been active members of the old Socialist League. Mr. T. Keegan, Glebe, is—or was—a member of Sydney I.W.W. Club, whose principles and propaganda are energetically cursed and repudiated by the labor party. That list of candidates, read in conjunction with the labor party's Opportunist attitude, its open repudiation of Socialism, the determined efforts of its leading officials to wreck every strike that has occurred during later years, and finally its bourgeois program as recently made public in the Governor-General's speech, and through other pronouncements, all go to substantiate Feldhusen's charge. The genuine wage-worker is hardly included in the list; the craft unionist even is brushed aside; and the party makes backward progression to meet the inclinations of the small exploiting class whose representatives are rapidly coming to the front as labor candidates.

And so we have the men who are to bear the banner of middle-class "Reform" to victory. They *will* bear it to political victory; but because the party is born of the alliance of Lust of Office and Political Opportunism, the victory will mean nothing but the bitterness of disillusionment for the workers. A party born of Class-Consciousness and Revolutionary Love will make for working-class emancipation. The lust-of-office labor party sacrifices every industrial interest to the economic well-being of the master class. The Revolutionary Socialist Party stands on a working-class platform, every plank of which is marked No Compromise. Between the middle-class party that is the product of Political Lust and the working-class party of No Compromise you, the workers, have to choose.

Laborism in Queensland.

BY ALF. USSEN AND E. H. KUNZE.

THE history of the labor movement in Queensland is in many respects similar to that of the other Australian States. Being the younger sister, it is but natural that the conditions economically and politically here are somewhat behind those of N.S.W. and Victoria. Although various attempts have been made during the last 20 years to organise a Socialist Party within the Labor movement, they have all proved failures. The last of these, the S.D. Vanguard, after a chequered career has now put up its shutters. "Boring from within" has been well tried here and proved absolutely hopeless. The editor of the Melbourne *Socialist* should make a note of this. Let us analyse the cause of it.

Political movements are the reflex of economic conditions. They are brought into existence by them and die after having outlived their usefulness and conditions have changed. The Labor movement as we have known it here in Australia is doomed because it grew out of conditions which no longer exist.

Born in the strenuous times of the eighties and early nineties, when the squatocracy and land-robbing classes had completed their work of monopolising the natural resources of this territory and made life unbearable for all but a few parasites who thrived under those conditions, the liberals or budding capitalists, under the leadership of S. W. Griffith, sought in the working class an ally to assist them in the overthrowing of the old regime. The squatocracy, aided by the investment and importers' interests, was a barrier to capitalist development.

The workers, particularly in the pastoral industry, naturally saw in the squatter the deadliest enemy. The arrogance with which all ruling classes at the height of their supremacy deal with the subjected classes soon taught the workers their first lessons in organisation which brought them together in trades unions.

The rising middle class, as yet small in number, and for economic reasons cowardly in character, could not single handed succeed in dislodging the old regime, which controlled and used the Legislature in its own interests. For "property" was king then, and "property" was the basis of the electoral system.

"One man one vote" became the catchcry of the Liberals to arouse the workers to take up arms against the ruling class of that time.

Favored by the unsuccessful attempt of the organised workers in the pastoral and shipping industries to win their fight against the Master Class by means of strikes, the cry caught on. "Labor in Politics" was born.

But the vigor and strength with which the workers had fought their battles on the economic field had sent a cold shiver, not only through the old regime, but the Liberals as well. If the workers should rally to the attack and carry it into the political arena with equal vigor, our exploitation would receive a serious check, became the natural feeling of all the robber classes. Coalition against the rising Labor Party became now the order of the day.

But the interests of Landlordism and Capitalism are only identical in keeping the workers in submission. Outside of this their interests clash.

Soon it was found that political Labor representatives in Parliament are no exception to the law of environment. Some even there were who had tendencies to easy virtue. Increased salaries, royal commissions, and the many ways of persuasion known to statecraft would make the fiercest of them reasonable, safe and sane.

Labor politicians, under the cry of "support for concessions" sold their class to this faction of exploiters, and to that. Capitalist-Landowner coalitions gave place to Capitalist-Labor coalitions. But these tastes of office in the Labor politician soon developed into a hunger for the whole loaf of office. The Labor platform was extended, was "broadened out" to include all classes in Society. Labor propaganda had to give way to the fine art of political palaver and wordjuggling. Working-class aspirations became smothered by the aspirations of a decaying middle class. The Fisher Government is the finale of these conditions. A Socialist Party to be of any value in the coming struggle for emancipation must stand clear of "Laborism," or be buried with it. In spite of the many betrayals by its political representatives, still the fear of the power of organised labor remained with the Capitalist class. But industrial peace was necessary for them to establish their dominion. Wages boards and compulsory arbitration offered the means by which the power of trades unionism could be neutralised, by keeping Labor's ranks divided, the militant spirit killed. For Labor politicians, it was the cover under which to harmonise the interests of the robber and the robbed.

Meantime Industrial Capitalism is growing in Australia, and with it the class struggle will grow as well.

If we trace history we find the same here as we have found in every other country. With the growth of industrial capitalism,

the working class has to alter its tactics. It will have to learn that there is no salvation for itself except by the complete overthrow of the system of exploitation. The present organisations are based on the idea of reforming tactics, while on the other hand Capitalism has developed beyond reform. We find the workers of Australia have not yet gained the experience of their brothers in Europe. We take, for instance, France. There was a time when the workers there really believed craft unionism was sufficient for their welfare, when it had already outgrown its usefulness. But it failed. Their conditions became worse. La fédération du travail (Labor federation) was organised. It also failed them. Why these failures? The answer is clear: a few men cannot guide and control the mass of producers, they must learn to lead and act themselves. Even if their leaders are sincere, which many of them are not, they could not achieve emancipation unless the workers become conscious of the power which lies within them. They have to realise that they must organise industrially, organise a combine in one union, fight together on the principle that an injury to one is an injury to all. And when the working class of all countries have reached this understanding, then the shadow of sufferings, injustices, and crimes will perish and give place to the bright sunshine of human freedom.

Socialism in Australasia

S.F.A. Third Annual Conference.

An Epoch-Marking Event in Australasian History.

This year, the Annual Conference of the Socialist Federation of Australasia was held in Melbourne. The fact of the Labor Party's accession to office as the ruling party, and many other political and industrial developments, made this year's Conference by far the most important yet held. In a later issue (next week, if possible) we purpose reviewing the situation as disclosed at Conference at some length.

FIRST DAY—SATURDAY, JUNE 25.

Conference was called to order at 11 o'clock at the Empire Hotel, Latrobe-street, Melbourne.

The secretary of the Socialist Party of Victoria, R. S. Ross, briefly welcomed the delegates.

Credentials were received as follows:

Socialist Party of Victoria (Melbourne)—R. S. Ross, A. K. Wallace.
International Socialist Party (Sydney)—J. Wilson, J. E. Greig.
Barrier Socialist Group (Broken Hill)—P. Lamb, J. Pope.
Socialist Party of South Australia (Adelaide)—F. J. Riley, H. Denford.
Gen. Secretary, S.F.A.—H. E. Holland.

J. E. Greig was elected chairman of Conference, F. J. Riley minute secretary, and R. S. Ross press secretary.

Resolved that where voting is equal during Conference proceedings the question shall be decided in the negative.

Reports concerning the activities and status of the various organisations were submitted and received.

Strike Prisoners.

On the motion of J. Pope, seconded by Wilson, and supported by Ross and Holland it was unanimously resolved:

That this Conference protests against the continued unjust imprisonment of the Coal Strike officials and members of the Socialist procession, and demands their immediate release. That this Conference further calls upon those members of the N.S.W. Parliament claiming to be working-class representatives to abandon their present futile efforts which only constitute a political advertisement at the expense of the imprisoned men and determine that no further Parliamentary business shall be transacted until the wrongly-jailed unionists have been set free.

It was also decided that Sunday's Yarra Park meeting should be made a release demonstration.

Sunday Meetings and Literature.

Ross moved, Wilson seconded, Riley and Denford supported, and it was unanimously resolved:

That this Conference protests against those legislative enactments which (in N.S.W.) prevents Socialists and others holding Sunday public meetings in halls, and (in Victoria) prevents the Sunday sale and distribution of literature, believing such enact-

ments to be coercive in their worst sense, tyrannical to minorities with equal right of expression to the more strongly organised, and a menace to reasonable liberty of action.

Election Dep sits.

Ross moved, Pope seconded, and Holland supported:

That this Conference affirms that election deposits should be repealed in States as such, and in the Commonwealth, as the imposition of such deposits is a violation of democratic principle and spirit, and really a concession to and privilege of wealth, and in essence a punishment for poverty.

Wilson opposed. Carried, Wilson voting against.

During lunch hour Conference was photographed.

Murder of Ferrer.

Ross moved, Lamb seconded, and it was unanimously resolved:

That believing in connection with the execution of Francisco Ferrer a State and religious crime was perpetrated and an innocent man murdered, this Conference places on record its hearty appreciation of the mission of Joseph McCabe in vindicating Ferrer and placing before the Australian people in books and lectures the facts relating to Ferrer's work and martyrdom.

Labor Party Opportunism and Old Age Pensions.

Holland moved, Pope seconded, and it was unanimously resolved:

That this Conference unreservedly condemns the opportunist attitude of the Fisher Government in the matter of old-age pensions, and while drawing the attention of the workers to the marked difference of the treatment meted out to State-employed members of the exploiting class in the matter of pensions, declares that the lowest pension to aged and incapacitated workers should be not less than the standard wage rates ruling in the industry to which the workers concerned belong, and the age at which such pension should commence should be the age at which the workers are declared to be too old for State employment.

Bible in State Schools.

Ross moved, Pope seconded, Riley and Wilson supported, and it was unanimously resolved:

That this Conference urges the working-class of Australasia to organise a vigorous campaign against the introduction of the Bible in State Schools, or of any Theological teaching, where same be contemplated.

Ross, Riley, and Denford were appointed a committee to frame a resolution re the Socialist view of monarchy and the Labor Party's loyalty attitude.

Recommendations from the Administrative Council were adopted as under:

That it be a recommendation that H. Borax and Tom Mann be the S.F.A. delegates to International Congress.

The secretary reported that immediately he had received the International Bureau's call re Congress, he had replied that the Australian report could not be supplied in the form desired by the date named, but would be put into print and forwarded at the earliest possible moment.—Recommended that secretary's action be endorsed.

The treasurer reported having handed 60 dozen postcards to the West Sydney election committee.—Recommended that the treasurer's action be endorsed.

Owing to lack of funds it was decided to recommend against Victoria's proposal reprinting "The Political Action of Labor," by James Connolly, as No. 2 of the S.F.A. Library.

As to Palliatives.

Riley moved, and Denford seconded:

1. That Conference re-affirm the adherence of the S.F.A. to a program free from palliatives, but that certain matters of vital importance, such as the maintenance of children, the unemployed question, and reduction of working hours, be dealt with by resolution, but not be included in the political program of the Party.

Both Victorian delegates supported the motion, but held that the matters referred to should be embodied in the Principles and Policy of the S.F.A.

Holland and Wilson spoke against the motion.

Adelaide and Melbourne voted for; Sydney and Broken Hill against. The motion was therefore declared negative.

Adelaide's second proposal was withdrawn. It read:

That where no Socialist candidates are running for Parliamentary or Municipal elections, branches be permitted to determine their own course of action.

Conference Representation.

Wallace moved, and Holland seconded:

That representation at Conferences be upon the following basis—Up to 100 members, 1 delegate; over 100 and up to 250 members, 2 delegates; over 250 members, 3 delegates.

Riley and Denford opposed. Wilson said that personally he was against the motion, but had been instructed to vote for it. Carried by 5 to 3, Riley, Denford, and Lamb voting against.

Conference adjourned at 5.30.

SECOND DAY—MONDAY, JUNE 27.

Conference resumed at 10 a.m. Minutes of last sitting were read and confirmed.

Constitution and Rules.

Wallace moved, Ross seconded, and it was resolved:

That the Constitution and Rules of the S.F.A., as amended and adopted by the Socialist Party of Victoria, be reviewed, and, as adopted by Conference, govern proceedings and decisions of same.

On Victoria's motion, it was also unanimously resolved:

That the Rules contain a provision recognising the right of review of Conference decisions by affiliated organisations.

Ross moved, Wallace, seconded, and it was resolved:

That the principles and policy of the S.F.A., as published in the *Socialist*, of April 22nd, be reviewed, and when adopted by Conference, be final unless challenged in accordance with Rule 7.

Rules as revised and adopted by Conference are as under:

1. The name of the organisation shall be the Socialist Federation of Australasia.

2. The Federation shall be composed of such Socialist bodies in Australasia and New Zealand as accept the objects, statement of principles, and policy of the Federation, and pay a capitation of sixpence per annum.

3. Headquarters of the Federation shall be such place as the annual conference may fix upon.

4. The officers of the Federation shall consist of general secretary, general treasurer, and two auditors, all of whom shall be elected at the annual conference.

5. The National Executive shall consist of the general secretary, general treasurer, and two representatives appointed by each affiliated organisation upon the termination of the annual conference, and such representatives shall sit (unless they resign or are recalled) until the subsequent annual conference. The members of the National Executive shall report regularly to their organisations, and the executive itself shall make a yearly report to conference.

6. The general secretary, general treasurer, and National Executive members resident at headquarters, shall constitute an Administrative Council, and shall meet not less than once a week. Its decisions, other than upon urgent and formal matters, shall be referred to members of the National Executive for approval or otherwise, and all its decisions shall be subject to review. The Administrative Council shall make a quarterly report to affiliated organisations.

7. A conference of affiliated bodies shall be held in the month of June in each year at a place determined upon by previous conference. Business for conference shall be called for by the Administrative Council in March of each year, and must be in the hands of the Council not later than the last day of April, and furnished to affiliated organisations within a fortnight from that date. The conference shall consist of general secretary, general treasurer, and delegates from each affiliated organisation upon the following basis: Up to 100 members, 1 delegate; over 100 and up to 250 members, 2 delegate; over 250 members, 3 delegates. Decisions of conference shall be final, but any decision may be challenged within six weeks by an affiliated organisation, and a referendum of the membership of the Federation demanded. All decisions shall remain in force until amended or rescinded by notice to annual conference.

8. Upon a referendum being demanded, the Administrative Council shall supply the requisite papers to each organisation within one month of receipt of papers, returning the ballot papers duly sealed, for counting to the Council.

9. Special Conference may be convened upon requisition at the discretion of the National Executive. Two affiliated organisations may request the Administrative Council to call a special conference on urgent business at any time. The Administrative Council shall submit the proposal to the members of the National Executive, who shall decide whether the business justifies the calling of the same.

10. A member shall belong to the organisation geographically nearest to him (in the same State), but membership cards shall be

interchangeable, with minimum subscription of 1s per month for males and 6d per month for females; applicants for membership in any affiliated organisation shall sign a Declaration endorsing the principles and policy of the S.F.A. No member shall belong to any other political organisation [but this provision shall not debar membership for industrial purposes in trades unions which are primarily industrial, and only secondarily political].

11. Any member of the S.F.A. proved to have acted contrary to the principles and policy of the S.F.A. shall be expelled from the branch of which he or she is a member.

12. Affiliated organisations shall pay at the rate of 6d per member per annum to Headquarters for maintenance, and as affiliation with the International Socialist Bureau.

13. Affiliated organisations shall be considered branches of the Federation, but shall be self-governing within the provisions of the S.F.A. constitution and rules. No branch shall enter into negotiations with any political or industrial association without consulting the National Executive (whose decision shall be final for the time being).

14. Branches of the S.F.A. may be formed by trades unions which endorse the principles and policy of the Federation, and by not less than six persons making application to the National Executive and receiving endorsement.

15. The newspapers of affiliated bodies shall be recognised as official organs of the Federation, and shall adhere strictly to the principles and policy of the Federation.

16. No pamphlet, post-card, or other publication shall be issued by the Administrative Council unless first submitted to and approved by the National Executive.

Amalgamation of the Socialist Press.

Holland, Wilson, Riley, and Ross were appointed a committee to report on the amalgamation of the Socialist Press.

Principles and Policy.

On Sydney's motion, the Objective, Statement of Principles, and Guiding Rule were re-affirmed.

Victoria moved that Clause 4—"As to Palliatives"—stand as at present.

Sydney moved, by way of amendment, to delete the last paragraph. An interesting debate, remarkable for divergence of the views put forward and the goodwill of delegates advocating them, as well as for the marked ability with which the various delegates stated the case for or against, took place. Sydney's amendment was ultimately carried by 5 to 3, the minority being Ross, Wallace, and Lamb.

It was unanimously agreed to substitute the word "purposes" for "propaganda," so that the paragraph affected should read, "only using the ballot for Socialist purposes."

Wallace moved, and Ross seconded:

That the first clause of No. 5 of "Principles and Policy" be altered to read as follows:—No member of the S.F.A. shall stand for parliamentary or municipal office except under the auspices of the S.F.A.; in the absence of an endorsed candidate members shall be free to vote as they choose.

Wilson moved as an amendment, and Pope seconded:

That all words after "office" in No. 5, "As to Political Action," be deleted, so that the paragraph will read: "No member of the Federation shall stand as, vote for, or otherwise support other than a revolutionary Socialist for Parliamentary or Municipal office," and that the remainder of the section be re-affirmed.

A great debate resulted, every delegate taking part. The amendment was carried by 5 to 3, the minority being Wallace, Ross, and Lamb.

Notices of further amendment were given, and the question was allowed to stand adjourned.

Conference adjourned at 5.30.

THIRD DAY—TUESDAY, JUNE 28.

In order that the various committees might meet, Conference did not sit on Tuesday morning, but resumed at 2 p.m. Minutes were confirmed.

General.

On Victoria's motion, the following resolutions were carried,

That Conference take steps to prepare for issue a pamphlet entitled "The Case for the S.F.A."

That Conference elect a representative on the International Socialist Bureau.

That the General Secretary for the time being be Australia's representative on the I.S. Bureau.

That the International Socialist Bureau be invited and urged to arrange for a succession of representative international exponents of Socialism to visit Australia in the interests of propaganda, the S.F.A. to guarantee expenses of such whilst in Australia and donate profits to a fund to be established by the Bureau for extending the work of Socialism in backward countries.

That it be a recommendation to the International Congress at Copenhagen that the next Congress be held in Australia at Melbourne or Sydney.

Protest against Loyalty Resolutions.

Denford moved, Ross seconded, and it was unanimously resolved,

Whereas the institution of Royalty is the figurehead of Capitalism in all Monarchical countries; and

Whereas the working-class can only achieve emancipation by abolishing Capitalism with all its institutions—including that of monarchy—and substituting the Socialist Republic; and

Whereas every expression of loyalty to the throne constitutes a declaration of loyalty to Capitalism,

Resolved that this Conference deprecates the loyalty resolutions and demonstrations of various Labor members, Labor councils, and Labor leagues in connection with the death of King Edward, and the accession of King George to the British throne.

Finland, Spain, Argentine.

Ross moved, Wilson seconded, and it was carried,

That this Conference of the Socialist Federation of Australasia expresses its warm sympathy with the working class of Finland in its stubborn fight against Russian despotism and the attempt of the Czar to destroy the Finnish Constitution, which gives to that country its present autonomy and democratic liberty. It is also further resolved that this Conference sends greetings to the proletariat of Spain and of Argentine in their present struggles for intellectual and political liberty.

Principles, Tactics, etc.

The question of political tactics was resumed. Holland moved, as a further amendment, and Denford seconded,

No member of the S.F.A. shall stand as other than the candidate of the S.F.A., or vote for or support other than the candidate of a Revolutionary Socialist party for Parliamentary or Municipal office, which parties are revolutionary to be decided by annual Conference.

This was carried, and became the motion.

The Victorian delegates exhausted every possibility of amendment as each opportunity presented itself. They moved in progressive order for the question of voting to be left to the branch effected, to the National Executive or a special Conference, to debar members from publicly taking part in an election campaign yet free to vote. Each of these amendments were defeated, and Holland's resolution was finally carried by 6 to 2, Ross and Wallace voting against it.

Conference adjourned at 5.30 p.m.

FOURTH DAY—WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29.

Conference resumed at 10. Minutes were read and confirmed.

Decided that a telegram be forwarded to comrades Feldhusen and Hansen congratulating them on their release from jail, and conveying Conference's appreciation of their sacrifice.

Debate on tactics was resumed, and Denford moved,

That for the purposes of the foregoing resolution, a Revolutionary Socialist Party shall be any party which bases its propaganda on a recognition of the class struggle; declares for the Socialist Republic—i.e., the socialisation of the means of production, distribution, and exchange; and has no program of palliatives.

Carried by 5 to 2; Wallace and Ross against. Greig did not vote.

Messrs. Fraser and Jenkinson were thanked by resolution for gifts of "Guide to Melbourne" and books of maps.

Decided that I.S. Bureau report be referred to incoming Executive, Ross and Holland to prepare same.

Press Amalgamation.

The Press Amalgamation Committee submitted the following recommendation,

Sydney and Melbourne papers to amalga-

mate. Sydney to hand over plant and paper, and Melbourne to hand over paper, to S.F.A.

Paper to be increased to eight pages Royal folio, and issued in Sydney under the control of the S.F.A. Executive, with joint editors in Melbourne and Sydney—all editorial work to be done voluntarily until next Conference.

One page of paper to be devoted to controversial articles, one to International, and one to Party news.

Sydney to take 1500 copies at full price; Melbourne, 1500; Adelaide, 100; Broken Hill, 100. Other States (estimated), 500. First issue to consist of 4000 copies. Estimated cost of production, £12. Estimated income, about £11.

Decided that the recommendations be forwarded to branches, the National Executive to have power to give effect to the amalgamation if branch decisions are favorable.

As to Unionism.

Ross moved, and Wallace seconded, to re-affirm clause 6. Sydney's proposal, moved by Wilson as an amendment, was carried, Ross and Wallace voting against, and the clause now reads,

1. The Federation declares for Industrial Unionism.

2. The Federation affirms its pronounced and mature conviction that Compulsory Arbitration, Wages Boards, the New Protection, and the like, as manifested in slightly differing enactments in the Australian States and New Zealand, have not proved advantageous to the working class.

Clauses 7, 8, and 9—"As to Compensation," "As to Militarism," and "As to Sunday Schools"—were re-affirmed.

As to Historical Materialism.

Wilson moved, Pope seconded, and it was resolved,

The S.F.A. pledges itself to the materialist conception of history, which asserts that the transition from one system of society to another—as, in the past, from primitive communism to chattel slavery, from chattel slavery to feudalism, and from feudalism to the present capitalist state—has been the result of new and improved methods of production, and that the time has now arrived when the present scientific tools of production, by their being socially owned, make possible the establishing of the Socialist Republic.

Decided that the issue of the pamphlet, "The S.F.A. and what it stands for," be left in the hands of the National Executive.

S.F.A. Badge.

Ross moved, and Holland seconded, that the S.F.A. adopt the red berry as its badge. Carried.

Report of General Executive.

The general secretary read the annual report, which was adopted, as follows,

Comrades,—Since last conference 13 meetings of the Administrative Council have been held, the attendances being: A. Borax, 12; H. Dierks, 9; Mrs. Lynch, 10; H. E. Holland, 7. Since last report, the general secretary, H. E. Holland, was released from Albury Jail, after undergoing five months' imprisonment. With the consent of the Administrative Council, immediately after his release, the general secretary proceeded to Melbourne, Adelaide, Broken Hill, and Port Pirie, where demonstrations were held and resolutions carried demanding the release of Stokes and May, and calling upon the Labor Party to take decisive action in Parliament to this end. The Labor Party positively declined to entertain the resolutions.

Immediately following these events, the great coal strike occurred, and the Administrative Council, on the N.S.W. Government proceeding to attack the strikers with a view of jailing the officials, at once issued a resolution to the effect that the Government's attack should be met with a downing of tools by the organized workers. The coal strikers were grossly betrayed by Labor politicians, whose actions were endorsed and supported by the craft unions, and the strike leaders were sent to jail for periods ranging from 8 months' hard labor to two and a half years' hard labor. The most serious protests against the jailing of the unionists were made by the S.F.A. Your executive desires to place on record its admiration of the spirit and courage which prompted the organising of a street procession and demonstration in Sydney to protest against the tyrannical jailing of the unionists. Although the said procession was of the most orderly nature, it was brutally attacked by the police, and the leaders were arrested. Comrades Feldhusen, Hansen, Harris, and Considine received sentences amounting in all to 18 months' hard labor each. Others received minor terms of imprisonment, and 60 men and

women were heavily fined. Comrade Harris was released after serving nearly three months in Goulburn Jail. Feldhusen, Hansen, and Considine are still in jail.

The Federal elections eventuated during the present year, the House of Representatives constituency of West Sydney being contested by the Sydney branch, whose candidate was H. E. Holland. The Socialist vote was 628. This was the only constituency contested by the S.F.A. All over Australia the Labor Party swept the polls, and stands now as the ruling party in Australian politics, which fact throws on the S.F.A. a far greater and weightier responsibility than ever. When the Labor Party shall have failed, as it must fail, to administer the Class State to the satisfaction of the working class, the S.F.A. must be in a position to justify its revolutionary attitude and take its place as the fighting opposition of the working class. The S.F.A. is at this time confronted with a more favorable field for its revolutionary propaganda than at any previous stage of its existence.

The departure of Comrade Tom Mann from Australia for South Africa and Great Britain constituted an event in the past year's history, and we desire to place on record our hearty appreciation of the splendid work done for Revolutionary Socialism by Tom Mann in Australasia during the past 7 years.

Your executive expresses its appreciation of the action of comrade Wilson of the S.F.A. in undergoing a sentence of one month's imprisonment with hard labor for upholding the right of free speech in the streets of Sydney on Sunday evenings.

The executive also places on record its due appreciation of the services of comrade H. Scott Bennett in his advocacy of the cause of Revolutionary Socialism in Australia.

Because of the difficulties which beset the Administrative Council during the year just ended much necessary work has been neglected, especially the work of organising. We hope that the incoming executive will find it possible to reach all the industrial centres with a propaganda and organising effort.

An important matter that we think should receive especial attention is the Socialist press—its extension or amalgamation.

Your executive is glad to place on record that during the year it established the S.F.A. Library by publishing as No. 1 of the same "The Materialist Conception of History," by "Dogmatist." A series of post cards was also issued.

During the year, Rules and Constitution, and Principles and Policy, embodying conference decisions, were published.

FIFTH DAY—THURSDAY, JUNE 30.

Conference resumed at 10 a.m.

General Resolutions.

Decided that a conference be arranged to draw the New Zealand Socialist Party and the S.F.A. into closer relationship.

Decided that the S.F.A. Executive take steps to organise a demand for the release of the unionists imprisoned in connection with the late Coal Strike.

Decided that the Prime Minister be invited to inquire at the Spanish Embassy if the Embassy can ascertain the fate or whereabouts of Captain Galeoran, the counsel for Francisco Ferrer.

Decided that delegates to International Congress be requested to forward one dozen copies of the *International Bulletin*, to be distributed among branches.

Decided that minutes of previous Conferences be bound.

Decided that next Conference be held in Adelaide; and also that headquarters be at Sydney.

H. E. Holland was re-elected general secretary; A. Borax, general treasurer; and Mrs. Wallace and T. Mottram, auditors.

Organising.

The organising committee recommended,

That the National Executive establish an organising fund and open same in S.F.A. papers, and also write Brisbane and Perth organisations, as well as branches, inviting support towards the raising of £100 with which to start out an organiser for one year at £3 per week and travelling expenses. Organiser to be appointed directly £100 is raised, and part of his duties to be to initiate a red van project.

Recommendation adopted.

Decided that Administrative Council take charge of treasurer's balance sheet, and when audited forward same to various branches.

Ross moved, Denford seconded, and it was resolved to finally close the "Holland Maintenance Fund," and present balance sheet to branches,

also to publish same in the S.F.A. official organs.

A statement was presented in respect of the issue of Dogmatist's pamphlet, and it was resolved that branches be urged to push the sale of this excellent publication.

Decided that a Socialist Sunday School manual be compiled, and that the Administrative Council communicate with the British National Socialist Sunday School Union in connection therewith.

It was resolved to refer to the Executive the matter of issuing a pamphlet setting forth the S.F.A.'s attitude on Militarism.

A letter was received from comrade Hogg, who was to have represented New Zealand at the Conference, stating that the serious illness of his wife had prevented him from attending.

It was resolved, on Denford's motion, that a letter of sympathy be forwarded to Gustave Herve, now incarcerated in a French prison.

On Denford's motion, seconded by Wilson, it was resolved,

That the Socialist Federation of Australasia warns the New Zealand working class against the middle-class politics of the Australasian Labor Parties, and urges them to persist in their work of organisation along the lines of Industrial Unionism and Revolutionary Socialism.

It was also decided to send fraternal greetings to the world's Socialist movement through the International Socialist Bureau.

Votes of thanks to the chairman, minute and press secretaries, outgoing executive and officers, and Vic. Socialist Party terminated the Conference.

Answers to Correspondents.

W.A.U., Sydney.—Will use later.

E.J.B., Vic.—Thanks.

D.O.S., Fitzroy.—Subs. received. Papers forwarded. Thanks.

A.J.A., Sydney: Thanks. Next week.

R.S.R., Melbourne; V.C., Broken Hill: Received.

H.B., Sydney: Next week.

G.W., Adelaide: Handed over to Literature Secretary.

A.U., Brisbane: Received.

All other replies unavoidably crowded out on account of Conference report.

Propaganda Fixtures.

BOYAN—Harris (chair), Mrs. Harris, Holland, Wilson, Feldhusen.

BARNUM-STRAUT—Harris (chair), Mrs. Harris, Cass, Holland.

MARTIN PLACE—Hocking (chair), Barrett, Wilson, Feldhusen.

The Evening Meetings will commence at 7 p.m.

The I.S.C. Liedertafel's 10th Anniversary will be celebrated in the Manchester Unity Hall, Castlereagh-street, on Friday, July 15. Double tickets, 1s 6d; single, 1s.

International Socialist Club.

The half-yearly meeting of the above will be held on THURSDAY, JULY 14th, 1910. All members are urgently requested to attend.

K. G. DRUMMEL, Secretary.

International Socialist Club

LIEDERTAFEL.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY.

Concert-Dance

IN THE

Manchester Unity Hall, Castlereagh Street,

Friday, July 15, 1910.

Commencing 8 p.m.

Dancing till 5 a.m.

Double Tickets, 1s 6d; Single Tickets, 1s.

International Socialist Club.

Members in arrears are requested to make themselves financial as early as possible.

By order of the Executive,

K. G. DRUMMEL, Secretary.

REASON'S VOICE.

WHEN Reason's voice,
Loud as the voice of nature, shall have waked
The nations; and mankind perceive that vice
Is discord, war, and misery; that virtue
Is peace, and happiness and harmony;
When man's maturer nature shall disdain
The playthings of its childhood;—kingly glare
Will lose its power to dazzle; it, authority
Will silently pass by; the gorgeous throne
Shall stand unnoticed in the regal hall,
Fast falling to decay; whilst falsehood's trade
Shall be as hateful and unprofitable
As that of truth is now.

—SHELLEY.

International Notes.

Argentina.

As a general strike had been decided upon for the occasion of the centenary celebrations, the Government, supported by the Chamber and the Senate, proclaimed a state of siege throughout the length and breadth of the Republic, and for an indefinite time.

On May 15 a number of students forced their way into the machine-rooms of Socialist and Anarchist newspapers at Buenos Ayres, destroyed the machines and did other damage. They then proceeded to the house where the Socialist trade unions hold their meetings. There a hand-to-hand fight took place, in which several persons were injured. The demonstrators marched through the town singing the Argentine hymn.

Austria.

The Austrian Social-Democracy has suffered a sad loss in the death of the Reichsrath deputy, Joseph Barth, at Gablung, in the 39th year of his age. It was owing to his efforts that the organisation in Gablung grew from a very feeble beginning to a body of great strength, which is able to make itself felt. He was elected as deputy in 1907.

Denmark.

The result of the elections for the Folkething were as follows:—
United Left Party, net gain 8 seats; Right Party, net loss 8 seats; Radicals, no change; Socialists, no change.

M. Zahle, the Premier, M. Krabbe, Minister of Defence, and Dr. Munch, Minister of the Interior, were re-elected. M. Nielsen, Minister of Public Worship and Instruction, and M. Weinmann, Minister of Commerce and Navigation, were rejected.

The issue of the present elections turned chiefly upon the question of the fortifications of Copenhagen. The Holstein-Ledzborg Ministry, which came into power in the course of last year, passed a Defence Law which greatly enraged the Radicals and Socialists. It was thereupon overthrown, and a Radical Ministry, under M. Zahle, was formed in its place, which decided to dissolve Parliament and submit the disputed question to the electorate. The result is a net gain of eight seats from the advocates of the fortifications.

France.

The inauguration of the monument raised by national subscription to the martyrs of the Commune, in the cemetery of Montparnasse, took place on Sunday, May 22, the following Tuesday, May 24, being the fortieth anniversary of the massacre. Processions were formed in all quarters of Paris and marched with red flags and wreaths of flowers to the strains of the "International," meeting at the boulevard Edgar-Quinet. About 3,000 persons were in the cortege. On arrival at the cemetery the wreaths were laid at the foot of the monument. Elie May then addressed the multitude, explaining that the Committee of the Mur des Federes had already, on May 24, 1908, placed a plaque on the wall at Pere-Lachasse, and that they were now fulfilling the second part of their task. Speeches by Allemane, Louis Dubautill, Dr. Goupil, Camelinat, the last two also old Communards, followed, and gave rise to an immense acclamation, and thousands of voices cried: "Vive la Commune!" "Vive la revolution!" And then the strains of the "International" sounded once more as the crowd left the cemetery. They afterwards proceeded to l'Avenir de Plaisance, where a meeting had been convened. On the way the police made a fierce attack on the procession and confiscated three flags, many of the demonstrators receiving violent blows. They succeeded, however, in reaching their destination and holding the meeting, but on the return march another conflict with the police took place. Nine arrests were made, and an unfortunate passer-by, who was carrying a basket of eggs, suffered considerably.

We regret to announce the death of Jules Renard, formerly collaborator on *L'Humanite*, a most devoted and hard-working member of the party. His descriptions of rustic life will be reckoned, says *L'Humanite*, among his chefs d'œuvre.

Gustave Herve entered on Saturday, May 21, upon the term of imprisonment to which he was recently condemned by the court of assizes of the Seine. He was placed provisionally at la Sante. He will, however, not

be left in Paris, but be removed to Clairvaux or Fontevault.

The Commission appointed to inquire into the strike of reservists at Marseilles has unanimously pronounced in favor of the strikers, saying that the Government had put a wrong interpretation on the decrees and laws regulating the merchant service, and approving of the action of the reservists in setting the movement on foot. As a result of this decision an agreement has been arrived at, and the strikers decided to resume work, which they did on the following day.

United States.

Morrill, recently elected to the Massachusetts Legislature, has got a Bill through which makes it compulsory on employers advertising for workmen during labor disputes to explicitly mention that trouble exists.

Mrs. Dora B. Montefiore, the well-known English suffragist, is lecturing in New York.

Great Britain.

Justice says the "contest over the Veto Bill has been a sham fight from the beginning. Even if the Bill were carried, and its provisions put into law, it would make no real difference."

Tom Mann was given a great reception at St. James's Hall, London, on Monday, May 23. H. M. Hyndman presided, and Ben Tillett, Quelch, and others spoke. Justice reports that "Mann's descriptions of some of the backward labor conditions in Australia were keenly followed; and he caused roars of laughter by his dramatic presentation of the Labor 'statesman.' Loud cheers greeted his declaration that he was joining the Social-Democratic Party."

A letter has just been delivered at Justice office, addressed to "Carlos Marx, Londres," and asking Marx for his autograph.

Norway.

As already mentioned, the Odelsthing decided by 71 votes to 10 to remove the limitations on women's suffrage for the municipal elections. Staatsrath Aretander, leader of the Radical Left Party, made a long speech against this broadening of the suffrage on the ground that there was danger of its increasing the Socialist vote. He had for the same reason been opposed to the adoption of universal manhood suffrage passed in 1898. He feared the Socialists would get too much power in all those places where there was a larger working-class population. Comrade Knudsen said this speech would make such excellent propaganda that the Socialists had better print it and distribute it in leaflet form by the thousand at the elections; it would only be necessary to prefix a few explanatory remarks.

Russia.

According to information received by the Berlin Society for Aiding German Jews, the prosecution of Jews has begun in earnest at Kieff, where hundreds of families have received an immediate notice to leave the country. Cordons of police surround the houses, and the occupants—men, women, and children—are fetched out by force and obliged to take themselves to the railway station, without having time to take anything but the merest necessities.

Switzerland.

In face of the recent ukases of the Russian Government against Russian students at foreign Universities, the general assembly of Russian students at Lausanne has decided to constitute a general organisation of Russian students abroad in all countries. They issue a pressing appeal to all Russian students at the Universities of France, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, etc., begging them to communicate with the Bibliothèque Russe, 12, Grand Pont, Lausanne, Switzerland.

Germany.

The Upper House in Prussia has passed the Suffrage "Reform" Bill by 127 votes to 82. It is now sent back to the House of Deputies.

The five persons accused of a breach of the peace in consequence of their protest against the police brutalities on the occasion of the suffrage demonstration at Neumünster on February 13 have been condemned by the court at Kiel to, altogether, nearly six years imprisonment, a punishment even greater than that suggested by the public prosecutor.

The Social-Democratic fraction of the Saxon Landtag voted against the budget in its complete form. Comrade Frassdorff has issued a declaration on the subject in the name of the group to the effect that in voting on each separate item of the budget the group considered each item on its merits. They did not refuse to vote money for social and educational purposes. But to accept the Finance Bill would mean to endorse, not only formally, but in principle, the policy of the bourgeois class State. For this reason the Social-Democratic group, taking up its stand on our party program, voted against the Finance Bill.

The police in Brunswick have declared that the question of a servant's "going out

day" is a political one! A meeting convened to discuss this question was dissolved on the ground that, being a political meeting, the police should have been notified. Frau Topfstedt, the convener of the meeting, was fined 30 marks. She appealed, however, against this penalty, and the decision has been referred back to the first court for reconsideration.

Björnsen's drama "The King," which is forbidden in most German towns, is to be performed in Bremen. It has, however, already been performed in Leipzig and Nurnberg.

For the first time the Social-Democrats, in the person of comrade Leipold, have captured a seat on the Town Council at Erlangen.

Italy.

The Roman branch of the Social-Democratic Party has passed a resolution against the vote of confidence in the Ministry given by the representatives of the Socialist Party in Parliament, and against the attitude of the *Avanti!*. They demand that a special Conference of the party be immediately summoned.

S.F.A. News & Notes.

SYDNEY JOTTINGS.

It has been decided to give books to the value of 5s. (to be selected from a list to be specially prepared, including the Literature Committee's list) to any comrade or friend who secures £1 worth of prepaid subscriptions during one quarter. Particulars in a later issue. Receipt books will be forwarded to those willing to canvas under the conditions laid down.

Comrades Feldhusen and Hansen were released from Darlinghurst Jail on Thursday of last week, and were accorded an enthusiastic welcome at Headquarters on Friday evening. A promised report of this function failed to reach us in time for this issue. We hope to print it next week.

Sunday's Domain meeting was a splendid success, the crowd being much larger than usual. The speakers were enthusiastically applauded, and quite a number of questions were asked at the conclusion.

Very successful meetings were held at Martin Place and Bathurst-street on Sunday evening. All meetings in Park-street have been prohibited by the authorities.

Club members are asked to note date of general meeting, advertised elsewhere.

F. J. Riley and H. L. Denford, of South Australia, will reach Sydney this week.

When you have read this paper send it along to some anti-Socialist.

Comrade Jack Carlson, one of the oldest members of the International Socialist movement, died of consumption at the residence of Mrs. T. Anderson, Millers Point, on Tuesday last. Comrade Carlson was a coal lumper, and three years ago he paid a visit to Sweden, the land of his nativity. In the days of his health he was one of the most energetic of our members. The funeral will take place on Thursday.

Everyone was glad to see Paul Sprenger back at the Socialist rooms this week.

At St. Mary's Cathedral, on June 22, Paul Pantano, of the Sydney International Socialists, and formerly of Broken Hill, was married to Miss Julia de Lerna. A number of Socialists and other friends were present, and many letters of congratulation were to hand from Broken Hill and elsewhere. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of 120 presents. We wish them life-long happiness.

The L.S.C. Liedertafel's 10th Anniversary will be celebrated in the Manchester Unity Hall, Castlereagh-street, on Friday, July 15. Double tickets, 1s 6d; single, 1s.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Fred. Riley and Harry Denford, the South Australian delegates to the S.F.A. Conference, were farewelled with a social on Tuesday, June 21st.

Comrades Gillespie, Bennett, Swindley, Langridge, Kimber and Miss Tremaine spoke eulogistically of the work done for Socialism in Adelaide by the departing comrades. Comrades Riley and Denford responded.

A program was provided by Comrades Moyle, Gillespie, Mrs. Tibbits, Misses Elborough, Walker and May Collins. Comrade Geo. Madgwick acted as secretary. Refreshments and dancing concluded a most enjoyable evening.

George Howard and J. Pope, of Broken Hill, passed through Adelaide this week bound for Ballarat and Melbourne respectively. The Saturday evening meeting continues to have a large attendance.

It is hoped that rooms will be secured shortly for party headquarters.

The *Watchman* prints "Some stories of the late king." And they are.

Mrs. Tyler Morse, of New York, has founded a school for the training of nurses for dogs. Most of the ultra-fashionables have long had to have nurses for their monkeys, but this is a new departure.

Capitalism's Trail of Blood.
Or, The Dignity of Labor.

For if blood be the price of all your wealth,
Good God! we have paid it in full.

A RAILWAY shunter, Lance Scanlon, was knocked down by an engine in the central railway station yards. His head and left thigh were badly injured.

James Thomas, coal lumper, was ascending a ladder leading from the hold of the vessel *Marian Woodside*, on Monday, when he slipped and fell a distance of 16 feet. His right leg was fractured.

A lad of 14 named Wilfred O'Donnell was running in cows at Bowraville on Saturday, when the horse he was riding reared and fell upon him, badly fracturing his right leg. The accident occurred two miles from the homestead, and the boy was lying in fearful pain for nearly an hour before he was discovered.

Alfred Dillford, a lad of 15, a sprigger in the Helburn Colliery, fell from the pit top to the roadway, a distance of 25 feet, on Friday afternoon, and sustained a concussion of the brain.

Harry Blackford, employed at the Lithgow iron works, was knocked down by a locomotive and run over on Saturday. He was badly bruised, and his left thigh was dislocated.

Committee and General Meetings.

The following meetings will be held at 274 Pitt-street, Sydney, during the forthcoming week:—

Monday, 7.30 p.m.—Club Executive.
Monday, 8.30 p.m.—Joint Executives.
Monday, 9.15 p.m.—Group Executive.

Propaganda Fixtures.

DOORWAY—Harris (chair), Mrs. Harris, Holland, Wilson, Feldhausen.
BATHURST-STREET—Harris (chair), Mrs. Harris, Cass, Holland.
MARTIN PLACE—Hocking (chair), Barnett, Wilson, Feldhausen.

The Evening Meetings will commence at 7 p.m.

PRESS FUND.

Already acknowledged	33	16	6
Bauer	0	1	0
Zimmermann	0	2	0
Pamplon	0	2	6
Germi	0	1	0
Liversidge, sen.	0	1	0
Newman	0	1	0
Kourt	0	1	0
R. Wenzel	0	1	0
Loos	0	1	0

Per O. Jorgensen (Book 30)—
W. Winkel 1, A.H. 1s, H.D.
Is, S. Rotter 1s, Shewell 1s.

Total - 0 5 0
Per H. E. Holland (Book 11)—
H. Gillespie (Adelaide) 3s, P.
Pantano 1s. Total - 0 4 0

£31 17 0

Advanced as Loans.

Already acknowledged - 6 0 0

Through a mistake at the printing office T. Woodth was in last week's paper credited with 3s. This should have been omitted, reducing the total to £31 16s 6d.

Premier Wade loudly complains of the falsehoods told about him in connection with the workers. There's no need to tell any lies on the subject. All that needs to be done is to keep to the strict truth. The only truth is this: Wade jailed the workers, called them convicts, and they were placed in leg-irons. Nothing more is wanted.—*News-letter*.

The resistance of the simplest matters and the most obvious demands confirms the old principle founded in experience, that no ruling class can be convinced by reasoning, until the force of circumstances drives them to sense and to submission. This force of circumstances lies in the development of society, and in the increasing intelligence awakened by this very development among the oppressed. The class-antagonism grows more and more pronounced, visible and sensible. Along therewith increases the understanding of the untenableness of the existing order among the oppressed and exploited classes; their indignation mounts higher, and, as a result thereof, also the imperious demand for a change and for improved conditions. By penetrating ever wider circles, such understanding of the situation finally conquers the vast majority of society, most directly interested in the change.—*BEHEL*.

Workers of all lands, unite. You have nothing to lose but your chains. You have a world to win.

International Socialist Club.

The half-yearly meeting of the above will be held on THURSDAY, JULY 14th, 1910. All members are urgently requested to attend.

K. G. DRUHMEI, Secretary.

International Socialist Club.

Members in arrears are requested to make themselves financial as early as possible.

By order of the Executive.

K. G. DRUHMEI, Secretary.

THE BIRD AND THE CHILD.

[FOR THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST.]

BY RODERIC QUINN.

A bird sang in the skies of morn
 Aloft on golden wings,
 No grief it knew, no woe it feared,
 But trilled of gracious things.

A flower, all scent and grace and light,
 Grew tall amongst its peers
 It laughed; it knew not pain or grief
 Or tears—sad, falling tears.

A child with all the bird's sweet songs,
 With spirit like a star's,
 Wept, wept because no human power
 Would break its prison bars.

Easy Lessons in Socialism.

BY WILLIAM H. LEFFINGWELL.

Lesson No. 4.—Adapted.

Proposition (a): A complete revolution in the method of producing has taken place in the last fifty years, improved machines, increased division of labor and large corporations, making it possible for the workmen to produce nine times as much as they did fifty years ago.

THERE was a time, up to about fifty years ago, when machines were few in number, crude and comparatively inferior, and the factories were very small. Hundreds upon hundreds of small shops were in existence, and hand work was the rule and not the exception as it is to-day. In those days the workman got a much larger proportion of his product than he does to-day, but he did not produce nearly so much. Just about this time the invention of machinery received an impetus on account of the extensive use of steam as a motive power. Large factories were built up and there was an increased division of labor, together with the use of machinery, has been carried to a high degree of perfection. For instance, there are over sixty separate and distinct tasks in the making of a pair of shoes, while formerly this work was done by one man. This division of labor, combined with the improved machinery and large factory organisation, makes it possible for the workman to produce nine times as much as he did in 1850.

Proposition (b): This wonderful change has been brought about by the changing of the method of production from an individual or competitive basis to a social or co-operative basis.

As noted before, there has been a complete revolution in the manner of producing in the last half century. Fifty years ago, nearly everything was done by hand; to-day almost everything is produced by machinery. The present wonderful productivity could never have been possible under the old handicraft or individual system. While it now takes over sixty men to make a pair of shoes, as compared with one in the olden times, these sixty men can produce many times more shoes than an equal number of men could have done on the individual plan. We now do everything co-operatively. The large department stores are co-operative institutions, the immense factories are co-operative—in fact everything is co-operative nowadays in production. However, when it comes to distributing the wealth thus produced by the workers, the capitalist class, who comprise 15 per cent of the population, receives 83 per cent; and the working class, who comprise 85 per cent of the population, get 17 per cent. Not much co-operation there.

Proposition (c): But while this change has taken place in producing, the workers are only partially benefitted by it, the capitalist class reaping the largest rewards in increased profits.

Think of the progress that has been made in the past half century. Now there are electric lights, electric cooking apparatus, electric heating telephone, sanitary plumbing, houses of a grandeur such as was never known before, clothing of the finest fabrics and furniture of all kinds better made

than ever before. In fact at the present time it is possible for a man to live in absolute comfort and comparative luxury. You produced these things: that is, you did your share, together with your fellow workmen. What do you get? Poverty, tumble down shacks that are not fit for a dog to live in, with no sanitary plumbing, no conveniences, no telephone, your clothes are shoddy, your furniture is cheap and poorly made, and your food is adulterated to such an extent that you are surprised if you discover an article of food that is pure. Who is it, then, that has these fine things? The capitalist class, the class that owns the factories, mills, mines, etc., etc.—the class that appropriates your product after you toil so hard. They do all the travelling, they have all the conveniences, and you get most of the discomforts.

Proposition (d): Therefore it is evident that it is the private ownership of the means of production and distribution which prevents the workman from receiving the full social value of his product.

Now, is it not plain that if the class you belong to, the working class, which produces everything, lives in poverty, while the capitalist class, the class which owns the machines, the factories, the mills, mines, railroads and land, live in luxury, that the cause of your poverty must be in the ownership of the means of life? This capitalist class owns everything; but they offer you the opportunity to produce wealth for them and then they give you a miserable pittance, barely enough to allow you to exist. They would not give you even this, only you would starve otherwise, and therefore would not be able to produce any more wealth for them.

Oh, what a chump you are! Just think of a man who will work all his life making things for other people and taking nothing in return for himself except enough barely to keep him alive. How foolish it sounds when you come to think about it in the right light?

Labor and Socialism.

BY J. BLUMENTHAL.

A CRITICAL comparison of the Labor and Socialist movements in Australia, show that the solid historical and economic foundation and erudite knowledge of the Socialist Party, must eventually triumph over the well-meaning, but ignorant Labor Party. The birth of the Labor Party was the resultant of clashing economic forces which brought forth men, who, for the first time in the history of Australia, were prepared to obtain sympathetic legislation for the benefit of those who created wealth, but obtained very little of it for themselves.

From 1891 onward the Labor movement gradually spread; it experienced what the Socialist Party is suffering from to-day: the wilful aspersions, misrepresentations, and abuse of the dominant and capitalistic press and their servile tools—the church. The one great benefit the Labor Party has brought about is the educating of the people into the idea that the representatives of the working class are more capable to rule the destinies of a country than the Liberal "business man." As a result of forcing concessions for the workers from capitalistic governments, the Labor Party now finds itself with a majority in the Federal House, and with a possible Labor Government in this State within a few months. Being connected with the Labor Party for some considerable time, I had an opportunity of studying the principles of this Party as enunciated by all classes of speakers within its ranks. I found that the Labor politician, whether in Parliament or out, was in the vast majority of cases entirely ignorant of the fundamental principles of political economy, and knew nothing whatever of history or modern science.

Their mode of appeal to the people was the recounting of what previous Labor Parties had done, and urging as a main reason why this Party should be put into power that they would see to it that every individual would receive a fair and reasonable remuneration.

Their economy was so bad, or their lack of it was so glaring, that they failed to realise that if the system of private production was allowed to continue, as wages were increased, the prices of commodities would necessarily rise proportionately. Still as a Determinist, I cannot blame them for their ignorance, for they are taught in schools controlled by capitalistic governments, and at the age of 13 or 15, at a period when their youthful minds are just ripe to receive and retain any practical knowledge, they are sent out into the world to become cheap child labor for private enterprise. The Labor Party represents a movement that has no definite aim for the drastic alteration or eradication of the cause of evil effects, and its only singleness of purpose is the betterment of the conditions of those that toil, and at the same time to legislate for the benefit of all classes. The result of lack of definite principles is such that at the present time, in its hour of triumph, when it has scarcely got its head above the turbulent waters, the Labor Party is already beginning to rapidly decay of internal dry rot.

Individuals who only a few years ago were prominent Liberals, otherwise representatives of the Capitalistic Class, are now being selected by Labor Leagues as their candidates for parliamentary honors. Men who have a sufficiency of the coin of the realm obtain the preference as candidates over those who possess the qualifications of intellect, knowledge and consistency of principle. But when, as happened recently, Labor Leagues which are situated in conservative and tory constituencies required only perfect men or tailors' dummies as suitable candidates for the electorate, and turned down in contempt men of known mentality, and who have been Labor advocates long before a Labor Party was ever thought of, because they were common workmen, and therefore were not class enough, the insipid rottenness of the Labor movement can be imagined.

If Laborites understood Marx's third great principle, there would still be a hope that the awakening of their reason would lead them to further explorations into the domain of causes and effects—causality. Socialists have the overwhelming advantage of knowing what they are aiming at. Their knowledge enables them to understand the meaning of every move, of every development, of every change in their political and industrial enemies, and they are therefore in a position to prevent or circumvent the strategy of the workers' economic masters. Their moral fibre impels them to appreciate the equality of the sexes, and only Socialists and their system will place man's slave—woman—on the pedestal of honor, beside man, which pedestal man has arrogated to himself, and which has been denied man's greatest friend for the 19 centuries of Christianity, and more. Only last year the P.L.L. Conference threw out a proposal to allow women to sit in Parliament.

The trite aphorism that "the hand that rocks the cradle rules the world" is evidently one of those conventional lies of civilization that moved Max Nordau to righteous indignation. Socialism is necessarily an educative movement. The ordinary individual cannot become a unit of the greatest humanitarian movement that the world has ever seen, on the consideration of a few moments, as he can become a Laborite. But every individual gained to the cause of Socialism is an intelligent fighter, worker, and battler for the rights of those who have, through no fault of their own, become the actual slaves of those whom, in their ignorance, they continue to allow to secure to themselves the difference between what they (the workers) earn and what they receive.

Socialism is the only issue.

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